

The Partners and Coastal Programs

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife program (PFW) in New Jersey has been providing services to New Jersey residents and creating and restoring fish and wildlife habitat since 1991. The program has grown and become more efficient over time. The PFW program is critical, since over 77 percent of the land in the State is privately owned, and few programs are available to assist landowners who want to restore habitat on their property. New Jersey is being developed at an increasing rate, and fragmentation of natural habitat is an acute and growing problem. Since its inception, the PFW program in New Jersey has restored or improved 5,513 acres of wetlands, 38.1 miles of riparian area, and 1,278 acres of uplands and has completed more than 195 individual projects. In addition, this program has leveraged more than \$2.4 million in direct project dollars and in-kind services, representing an 83 percent match to PFW dollars. The need for private lands restoration will continue to grow in the future, and restored habitat will be paramount to the survival of a variety of migratory birds that use New Jersey for nesting, wintering, and stop-overs. A waiting list of over 130 landowners is testament to the growing needs of restoration in New Jersey.



The Coastal Program

The Coastal program in New Jersey is critical to the Service's ability to promote on-the-ground restoration in estuarine and other coastal areas; the program's flexibility also allows the Service to be involved in planning and land acquisition. With over 1,600 dams in New Jersey, the potential for anadromous fish passage is tremendous. Then too, the State contains several significant coastal areas, such as Delaware Bay, the Mullica Estuarine Complex, Barnegat Bay, and Raritan Bay. Since the NJFO began working through the Coastal program in 1999, approximately 2,114 acres of wetlands, 8 miles of riparian area, and 174 acres of uplands have been restored. In addition, the Coastal program in New Jersey has provided over 76 miles of fish passage and directly protected 4,134 acres of wetlands and uplands through fee acquisition. The Coastal program has leveraged more than \$1.6 million in direct project dollars and in-kind services, representing a 95 percent match to Coastal dollars. There is a continued demand for housing in coastal areas in New Jersey, the same areas that are critical habitat to federal trust resources. So important are the coastal areas in New Jersey that three National Wildlife Refuges are positioned on the coast. The demands on coastal areas by development in the most densely populated state in the nation will continue to grow, increasing the pressure on remaining undeveloped areas to provide habitat for migratory fish and wildlife.



Accomplishments of the NJFO Partners and Coastal Programs from 1991 through 2004

